

WHAT I HEAR FROM YOU

“Your message was beautiful! It reminded me of a discussion I got into recently with a preacher who continually mis-quoted Hebrews 10:25 ‘...not forsaking the assembly...’ I pointed out to him that, by changing the verb ‘assembling’ to a noun, and then artificially defining the assembl-Y as the twice-Sunday and once-Wednesday night meeting times, we reduce it to a mere system of tally marks and thereby absolve ourselves of any true compliance with that verse. The assembly wasn’t even an issue in the first century, because (as we know it) it did not exist. Many of the folks who operated by this definition in our (small) former congregation did absolutely no assembl-ING; they were just there for the assembl-Y. I knew this because there was always a crowd in the lobby when class ran late, waiting to get in for the ‘service’ – and I knew absolutely none of them. I have many dear friends who are not associated with an official congregation in any way, yet they do more assembl-ING than we do, and generally teach their children more Bible at home than we’ve taught in our Bible Class System (which rapidly became mandatory), a tool by which we have judged others as being ‘less spiritual’ than we who attend. May God give us the compassion to practice the ‘judge not’ that we have preached.” -Sherry Casella <gcasella@juno.com>

“I really appreciate the way you express yourself. We think alike on many issues. There are so few, it seems, that do think like this, or at least, that are willing to admit it.”
<griff@erinet.com>

“I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciate the breath of fresh air you are within the ‘Churches of Christ.’ I’ve enjoyed reading your books for several years and am always challenged to think and re-think some of the things I’ve been taught all my life. In fact, it was Free In Christ which really jump-started me to think about what I believed and why. I was about 24 at the time. My father-in-law gave me a copy of your book and I couldn’t stop reading it. I just wanted to encourage you to keep challenging us and stretching us so we can continue to grow. May God continue to bless you in all you do for His glory.” -<BFIELDER@aol.com>

“I felt so guilty feeling as I did about the Church of Christ, having grown up in it. I feel so free now!” -<merrilgi@oplin.lib.oh.us>